

Oxford Democrat.

NO. 3, VOLUME 8, NEW SERIES.

PARIS, MAINE, TUESDAY, MAY 23, 1848.

OLD SERIES, NO. 12, VOLUME 17.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT,

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY, BY

G. W. WILLIAMS,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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THIS STORY TELLER.

From the Philadelphia Saturday Courier.

The Bracelet.

BY H. L. GARE.

'Save her! for the love of Heaven, sir, save her! she is innocent, I am sure she is innocent!' passionately exclaimed a young man, the expression of whose features gave additional force to his words.

'I hope I may be able to do so, Duncan,' replied his listener, a young lawyer, very little older, however, than his client; 'but I fear I cannot, the evidence is too strong. Nevertheless I will try. Can you find any one that will go her bail? You are not a housekeeper, and cannot.'

'I do not know, sir,' replied the client; 'perhaps my employer, Mr. Murphy, may be willing to do so.'

'You had better see him at once,' said Mr. Hartley—that was the attorney's name—for Mary, poor girl, ought not to suffer the contamination of a prison.'

'She would die there, indeed she would,' was the passionate answer, and at the thought the speaker burst into tears. 'Mr. Hartley, forgive me my heart is broken.'

'Do not despair, Duncan,' said the other feelingly and kindly; 'all may yet be well—at last I hope so!'

'You believe her guilty, sir, I am sure you do,' exclaimed the one we have called Duncan; 'but she is not, indeed she is not!'

'I don't know what to believe,' replied the lawyer. 'I cannot conceive any motive for the offence.'

'And to day we were to have been married,' soliloquized the young man. 'It is too, too horrible!'

'Do not despair, Duncan,' said Hartley; 'rather meet this untoward event with fortitude. Go, my good fellow, bring Mr. Murphy here—I will endeavor to persuade him to become her security.'

'I will, sir,' replied the client. 'He shall be here in half an hour.'

'In the meantime Mary will arrive,' said Hartley. 'I told the officer who has her in charge to stop here on his road to prison. Be quick, and I will detain him until you return.'

'God bless you, sir,' ejaculated the other, hurrying away as if life and death were in his speed.

It was a common case, one of larceny, that which was just now presented to the notice of Hartley, and one, moreover, on which his mind was already made up; his client was guilty. Still, however, there remained a slight doubt, which took its rise not only in the youth, beauty, and previous unexceptionable character of the prisoner, but in the fact that she was on the point of marriage with one who had been her playmate from infancy. Could she, and at such a time, have risked everything, her own hopes and his happiness, for the gratification of a contemptible vanity? It seemed scarcely possible.

While Mr. Hartley was engaged in running over the evidence that had just been given to the committee magistrate, the officer, with his prisoner, entered the room.

'Good morning, again, sir,' said that functionary. 'I've brought you the young woman you wanted to see.'

'I see you have,' replied Hartley, rising from his seat and bowing to the girl; 'and you will do me another favor, I shall be still more obliged to you. This young lady's friend has gone for her security, who will be here directly. I wish you to wait until he arrives. You shall lose nothing by your compliance.'

'In course I will, sir,' returned the constable, 'always happy to accommodate you, Mr. Hartley.'

'Will you accommodate me a little further?' asked Hartley, smiling. 'Will you allow me a little private conversation with my client? Nay, he continued, 'you need be under no apprehension; I will be answerable that she does not escape.'

'It's not exactly regular,' replied the officer, 'but seeing it's you sir—'

'Thank you, that will do,' said Hartley, as the officer arose and retired. 'Now Mary,' he continued, drawing his chair a little closer to that of the girl, 'I must ask you a few questions; I had but little time to confer with you before the magistrate?'

'I am ready, sir, to answer anything that you may ask,' replied the young woman; 'but before I do so, suffer me to assure you of my innocence.'

'Had you not better lay aside your bonnet and shawl?' said Hartley, without seeming to notice her remark; 'the day is a warm one, and you may have to remain some time.'

'Thank you; I will, sir,' replied the girl, 'I will, for I am faint.'

'This is a very unpleasant business,' said Hartley, fixing his eyes on her countenance, 'very. You say that you did not take the bracelet?'

'I did not,' returned the girl, 'I found it!'

'Found it?' repeated Hartley, 'where?'

'In the street, and when Miss Hargrave was in the country.'

'When did you see Miss Hargrave have the bracelet lost?'

'The morning she went out of town, sir—I chanced it on her arm.'

'If your story is true, the bracelet cannot be hers.'

'But she swears it is her's.'

'When you picked it up, did you not think it was hers?'

'I did not,' returned the girl decidedly, 'although I thought it very like it.'

'Miss Hargrave asserts that, when you first saw the bracelet, you were extravagant in your admiration of it?'

'I think I said that I should like to own such a bracelet.'

'Did you mention to any one the fact of your having found it?'

'I did not.'

'How came Miss Hargrave to suspect you of having stolen it?'

'I do not think she did suspect me,' replied the girl. 'She missed her bracelet, and Mr. Hargrave had the house searched. He it was who found it in my trunk.'

'And do you not believe the bracelet to belong to Miss Hargrave?'

'I do; has she not sworn it does?'

'Pray, Mary,' asked Hartley, somewhat hesitatingly, for the client's calm, quiet and truthful manner had impressed him in spite of himself, 'are you really certain that you found the bracelet—positively certain?'

'And you, sir—do you too doubt me?' exclaimed the unfortunate young girl, bursting into a passionate flood of tears. 'What have I done that I should be thus oppressed?'

'My good girl,' replied Hartley, somewhat deprecatingly, 'I did not mean to hurt your feelings, but—'

'The evidence, as you call it, is so strong,' returned the girl, recovering herself and resuming her former placid demeanour; 'I know it, sir; it is positive; nevertheless, I am innocent.'

'I have no doubt—that is, very little doubt of it,' returned Hartley, who, though desiring to credit his client's statement, still believed Miss Hargrave's direct testimony to be too plain, too positive, to be impeached.

'Here is Mr. Murphy, sir,' said Duncan; 'may we come in?—at the same time opening Hartley's door and entering with the former gentleman. 'Ah, Mary!'

'Certainly,' replied Hartley. 'Good morning, sir,' he continued, turning to his new visitor. 'I am glad to see you. Pray be seated.'

'Bad business, this,' said the new comer, unconsciously—'very!'

'Rather unfortunate,' replied Hartley, with a smile.

'Bad for Duncan,' rather soliloquized that ejaculated the old gentleman, evidently forgetting that Mary was in the room.

'Undoubtedly a great misfortune for both Duncan and Mary,' said Hartley pointedly.

'What's the character of the security required in this matter, sir?'

'Miss Elmwood is charged with larceny—'

'I know that, sir,' testily interrupted the old man, 'Duncan told me about it.'

'It will be necessary for her to give bail for her appearance at court,' Hartley, 'otherwise she will have to lie in prison.'

'That I know too, sir,' said the other.

'How much is the bail? That is what I want to get at. No danger of her running away?'

'No, Duncan?'

'O! Mr. Murphy.'

'Well, I suppose not. What is the amount, Mr. Murphy—what is your name?'

'Hartley,' returned the council, putting up with Murphy's civility. 'The bail is large—fifteen hundred dollars.'

'I'll go it,' was the emphatic rejoinder.

'Walk with me, then to the magistrate's,' said Hartley. 'Mr. Graball, pray remain here with your prisoner; I will bring you her discharge.'

'I do not know much about law matters, sir,' remarked Mr. Murphy, as soon as they had gotten into the street; 'but that girl is innocent!'

Hartley said nothing.

'A thief never owned such a face as hers,' continued the old man.

Hartley still remained silent.

'How much money has Duncan given you,' asked the old man quite abruptly.

'That is hardly a fair question, Mr. Murphy; let me think; what is your name? Pshaw, I have forgotten it!' ejaculated Hartley.

'No such thing, sir,' returned the old gentleman, 'no such thing; you remember it very well, and if you don't it is Murphy—Murphy, sir! Do you hear?'

'I do, sir,' replied his listener.

'Well, how much did you get?'

'Excuse me, Mr. Murphy.'

'Well, is your own business, I suppose,' growled Mr. Murphy, 'and I do not want to pry into it; but I want to retain you—that is what

you call it, I believe—in the case too. Here's you fee!' and he handed Hartley a bank bill, 'Needn't look it up,' he continued; 'twenty dollars, sir, every cent of it; but no matter for that, I like the girl! I do sir; I do; and I like Duncan. A good fellow—a very good, honest, trusting, faithful fellow—Served me; I'll serve him! Do your best for her, sir; not a word; Jack Murphy doesn't want 'em.'

A few minutes brought the train to the Magistrate's office, and the usual preliminaries were arranged, Mr. Murphy recognizing for Mary Elmwood's appearance at the next term of the Quarter Sessions to answer the charge of larceny.

'Mary, dear Mary,' said Duncan, the morning after the hearing, 'listen to me I beseech you!'

'No, George, no!' replied the girl resolutely, 'it is useless to ask such a thing. I will bring shame and disgrace upon no man's door! What when in a few days I must appear in court, and as a thief—a thief! O, it is too hard! You would make me your wife? George, I am grateful, but tell you again and again—it cannot be!'

'But Mr. Murphy wishes it,' said Duncan; 'I wish it. Give me the right to protect you?'

'I am sorry to refuse Mr. Murphy, George; still sorry to refuse you, but I must do my duty. Visit on your head the consequences of my infamy? Never!'

'Be it as you will, Mary; be it as you will,' replied Duncan. 'You are right and I am, wrong; but my heart bade me make the request.'

'And a noble heart you have, George,' replied the girl, 'and one worthier a loftier love than that of poor, heart-broken Mary Elmwood. But where are you going?'

'She exclaimed, as she saw Duncan snatch his hat from the table and prepared to leave the room.

'To Mr. Hargrave's.'

'For what?'

'To beg him to stop this wicked prosecution.'

'Do not stir a step—as you value my love, not a step,' exclaimed the beautiful girl, springing to her feet, her eyes flashing through her tears—she had been weeping. 'I am innocent—most innocent. No, George, no; I will stand my trial, let the consequences be what they may. God help me! I have nothing left but my character, and that is well nigh gone!'

An hour afterward this conversation was detailed to Hartley; it satisfied him. 'She is innocent,' thought he, 'I can doubt her no longer; guilty never sets nobly even with this fellow; and he sat down to cogitate upon what still remained to be done. After an interval, however, he arose, and for the first time in his professional career, dissatisfied with the result of his deliberations. Nothing but good character to offer in her defence, and against such testimony as the Commonwealth could and would bring to bear upon the prisoner. She must be convicted!'

A few days, however, made some alteration in his opinion. He remembered that Mary asserted that she had found the bracelet. If her story was true, the jewel was certainly advertised; besides, she had declared that she clasped the bracelet on Miss Hargrave's arm, on the morning of the departure of the latter from the city. But there was no witness to that fact, if it was a fact, unless Miss Hargrave would admit it, and that she would do so, was a supposition preposterous in the extreme. Nevertheless, although his proceeding was an irregular one, he called on Miss Hargrave, with whom he was somewhat intimate. But he returned disappointed; the lady had no memory to the act whatever; indeed, she was positive that it had never taken place. Hartley's next step was to examine the new papers, and he scoured them thoroughly; they contained no advertisement on the subject. What could he think? A jewel as valuable as the diamond bracelet would never be abandoned by its owner without an effort for its recovery. Mary was not habitually guilty. Unfortunately, he did not give up all hope; somehow, he knew not, an unaccountable interest in the defendant had taken complete possession of his mind. Had he left a point in his case unexamined? Yes, an important one—the maker of the bracelet! He had no doubt it had been made in the city, and at one of the most fashionable establishments. That evening he dropped in at one of the most distinguished houses of the kind. The owner was his client.

'Good evening, Mr. Hartley.'

'Good evening, Mr. Bentley.'

'Anything new, sir?'

'Nothing; only I came in to examine some bracelets.'

The jeweller at once proceeded to exhibit his stock.

'Talking about bracelets,' said Mr. Bentley, 'I am pestered to death about a bracelet. Here is a handsome one, Mr. Hartley—a sapphire, very rich. Pray, let me sell you that.'

'Pestered about a bracelet!' repeated Hartley, at once interested. 'How?'

'Why, you must know, Mr. Hartley, we made a bracelet for Miss Hargrave, daughter of old John Hargrave, an old skin-tint—and somehow she allowed it to be stolen. I shall be called upon to identify the article.'

'Can you do so?' asked Hartley.

'Why, I don't know,' replied the jeweller; 'I remember very little about it; I saw it, to be sure, but I left town directly after, and now have almost forgotten the article.'

'Have you any other of the same pattern?' inquired Hartley.

'None,' returned the jeweller. 'We don't often manufacture bracelets like that; at least, to keep on hand. Might do for Europe, sir, but not for America.'

'And you never made another like it since?'

'No—that is, I am not certain; we might have done so. Some one seeing it in the case, might have ordered a similar one. William, turning to one of his clerks, 'reach me the book of sales. Let me see—why, I declare there was another ordered. See here, and he handed Hartley the volume of accounts. It contained the following entry:

'July 10—Wm. Everhart, Esq., One diamond bracelet, \$1000.'

'But, Mr. Bentley,' suggested Hartley, 'the bracelet might have been dissimilar, after all.'

'Very true,' returned the other, 'William hand me the order book. No they were identical.'

'July 19—Wm. Everhart, Esq., one diamond bracelet, same pattern as Miss Hargrave's. To be done on the 18th. Delivered.'

'Who was this Mr. Everhart?' inquired Hartley.

'William,' said Mr. Bentley, turning to his man of business, 'do you know anything about this entry?'

'Certainly, sir,' replied the clerk; 'putting his pen behind his ear, 'I made it.'

'Where was the bracelet sent to?'

'Mr. Everhart came after it himself, sir.'

'Did he give no address?'

'None, sir.'

'A loose way of doing business,' said the jeweller, 'see that it doesn't occur again.'

'Did he seem like a stranger?' asked Hartley.

'No sir, like a citizen.'

'In what did he pay you? continued Hartley, grasping at what was the only possibility of a hope.

'In notes on the bank of North America,' replied the clerk.

'To be frank with you, Bentley, said Hartley, 'I am much interested in this matter; I defend the young girl who is charged with the larceny of this bracelet, and, although until to night, every circumstance has told against her, I have felt, and still do feel considerable doubts as to her guilt.'

'And you don't want a bracelet?'

'Not now, but when I marry, Bentley, you shall make up my wife's wedding present.'

'I hope it will be soon,' returned the jeweller, laughing.

'I hope so too,' replied Hartley, as he left the store.

Hartley returned to his office and examined the directory. There were plenty of Everharts, but not the Everhart he wanted. He made inquiries afterwards among the several families bearing that name, but no one knew anything of the purchaser of the bracelet. He was undoubtedly a stranger.

Hartley was now fully embarked in the business, and determined to proceed. His next step was to visit the various hotels and examine their registers, but William Everhart was an unknown name. All this consumed considerable time. Nothing daunted by his ill-success, he started a list for the wharves, determined, if such a thing were at all practicable, to discover whether a Mr. Everhart had started North or South, at any time after the purchase of the bracelet. He was variously unsuccessful, for the way-bills of the various lines along remained at the several places of destination. Almost out of heart, he continued to make inquiries of the hotel and cabmen, but no one remembered such a name.

Further search was made to no end.

As Hartley was thus engaged, the intention of retracing his steps, he was one accosted by a man with a shaggy beard and a wild hair.

'Ah! Hinton, is it you, is that you?' asked our attorney, recognizing his friend at once. 'What are you doing here?'

'Attending to a little business at the Transportation Company's office.'

'The Transportation Company's office! an idea flashed across his mind. What could Mr. Everhart want with a bracelet of such value unless to present to a wife, or a lady about to be betrothed? Perhaps he was a Southerner, making preparations for his wedding. If so, he might have selected some furniture and had it forwarded. It was still possible that Hartley might obtain his address.

'Walk with me to the Baltimore Transportation Line,' said Hartley to his friend, 'and I will walk up with you. It is but a step.'

'Willingly,' returned the other; 'but what is your object?'

'I am trying to discover the whereabouts of a man named Everhart.'

'What Everhart? William Everhart?'

'Yes, William Everhart! Do you know him?'

'I should think I do; I was only his groom's man.'

'Indeed I and where is he?'

'At home by this time, on his estate in Virginia.'

'Tell me, Hinton, for perhaps you know—'

'You say you were his groom's man—did you see a diamond bracelet he bought?'

'Certainly I did. He clasped it on the bride's arm on the night before her wedding.'

'Would you recognize it again?'

'Undoubtedly. It was a beautiful affair; he gave \$1000 for it. It was made at Bentley's.'

'When did Mr. Everhart leave Philadelphia?'

'On—let me see; yes, it was—on the seventeenth of July, the morning succeeding his bride's arrival.'

'Excuse me for asking such a question; but did he walk or ride to the boat?'

'He walked; a large company of us attended the new married couple to the wharf.'

'One more question, and I have done: did you see the bracelet on his wife's arm on the morning of their departure?'

'No,' replied the other, 'I did not. Do you imagine a woman like Ellen Gleason would wear diamonds over a travelling dress?'

'Ellen Gleason! Why the Gleasons live only a few doors above the Hargraves,' thought Hartley. 'Perhaps there may be some truth in Mary Elmwood's story after all. At any rate, everything that can be done shall be done.'

'Pray, Hinton,' continued Hartley, 'can you give me Mr. Everhart's address?'

'Certainly. William Everhart, Poplar Grove, near Richmond, Virginia. And now what is the meaning of all this?'

'I will tell you another time, Hinton—explain over this; but now I must write to a friend,' said Hartley, as he ascended the steps which led into his office. 'Wont you walk in?'

'No, thank you, I've an engagement,' replied his friend. 'Good evening, Hartley.'

'That night Hartley wrote to Virginia. 'Well, young man, getting on in our business?'

'said old, unceremonious Mr. Murphy to Hartley, a few days previous to that fixed on for the trial of Mary Elmwood. 'What is your opinion now?'

'I am perfectly satisfied of Mary's innocence,' returned Hartley; 'and I hope for her acquittal.'

'You don't say so!—you don't say so!' exclaimed the really excellent hearted old man; 'but do you think the court will be satisfied?—The court's opinion of more consequence than a lawyer's any day.'

'I think the court's opinion will be the same as mine,' replied Hartley, with a smile.

'Ain't you certain of it?' inquired Mr. Murphy, with some trepidation.

'Not positively.'

'Well, you must be,' exclaimed the old man. 'Here's another fee for you. You needn't look at it; twenty more good dollars, as I'm a Christian. A wifed thing this law is, awful, awful!'

'Thank you, thank you,' said Hartley, pocketing the additional twenty. 'You may depend on my doing my best. Be ready for Tuesday morning; the grand jury meet on Monday, when they will, no doubt, find a good bill.'

'Good-bye,' returned the old man, walking off without another word.

The terrible morning—terrible for poor Mary Elmwood—at last arrived, and Hartley took his seat in court beside his client.

'Be comforted, Mary,' said Hartley, with a pleasant smile, which went to the heart of the girl; 'the darkest of hours is the hour before day.'

'It's a dark hour for me now, sir,' replied Mary, resignedly, but with a tear in her eye, 'a very dark hour, but I trust in God. He will not forsake the innocent.'

'Continue your well-founded trust,' said Hartley, 'for those who trust in Him shall never be confounded.'

'Commonwealth vs. Mary Elmwood,' interrupted the Attorney General, rising from his seat. 'Ready for trial in this case, Mr. Hartley?'

'We are, sir.'

'Stand up, Mary Elmwood.'

'Stand up, Mary,' whispered Hartley; 'fear nothing, God protects the innocent.'

'You are charged in this bill of indictment, Mary, with the larceny of a diamond bracelet, the property of Ellen Hargrave; value one thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States of America. How say you—are you guilty or not guilty?'

'Not guilty!' replied Mary, in so loud, clear and vehement a voice, that every eye in the crowded court-room was fixed upon her.

'You may sit down, now, Miss Elmwood,' said the Attorney General, evidently struck with her manner. 'Any objection to the jury, Mr. Hartley?'

'None, sir.'

'Then I will open.' And the Attorney General arose and addressed the jury. He alluded to the youth and beauty of the defendant, trusting that they would have no effect, where the great ends of justice were concerned. He spoke of the situation held by Mary in Mr. Hargrave's family, the confidence which, up to the time of larceny, had always been reposed in her, and admitted her previous estimable character. It was no doubt her first offence—an offence brought about, he believed, more for the gratification of a foolish vanity, than from a desire for the possession of unlawful wealth. She was about to be married, he continued, when the larceny took place, and the discovery of guilt only prevented nuptials. He was sorry for her, very; but he must perform his duty, painful as he should find the task; and he went on with the

particulars of the case, evidently making a most powerful impression both on court and jury.

'Why Mr. Hartley,' said a friend, 'What is the matter with you? Why didn't you cross-examine Miss Hargrave more closely?'

'You will see,' was Hartley's quiet reply.

'James Bentley.'

Mr. Bentley was called and sworn. He detailed the fact of the purchase of the bracelet by Miss Hargrave, but could not speak positively to its identity. Miss Hargrave and her father, however, had done so, and their testimony was quite sufficient for the purpose of the Commonwealth.

'Cross-examine.'

'No questions,' replied Hartley. 'Nevertheless, Mr. Bentley, you will please remain in court.'

'We close,' said the Attorney General, wondering, in common with every one else, at Hartley's lukewarmness. 'Our case is fully made out.'

'Go on with the defence,' said the Judge.

Hartley arose, stated in a calm, quiet, but emphatic manner, Mary Elmwood's simple story, only adding, that if he could account, as he hoped to be able to do, for the honorable possession of the bracelet alleged to belong to Miss Hargrave, any idea of larceny by his client must necessarily fall to the ground.

A titter ran round the bar at the triteness and lameness of the story of the defence, while both Judge and Attorney General smiled at its improbability. Old Mr. Murphy fidgetted and fidgetted, and we verily believe, vowed to knock Hartley down, the instant he left the court-room. Duncan trembled for the safety of his Mary—Hartley, casting a stern and dignified look around, sat down.

'Richard Bentley.'

'Mr. Bentley take the stand. You have been sworn, sir,' said Hartley. 'I think you said, sir, that your establishment made the bracelet alleged to belong to Miss Hargrave. Did it ever manufacture a similar one?'

'It did, sir.'

'For whom?'

'For Mr. Wm. Everhart.'

'At what time?'

'It was delivered on the 16th of July last.'

'How are you so precise as to the time?'

'By my books, sir, which I have with me.'

'No matter, Mr. Bentley. Cross-examine.'

'No questions,' replied the Attorney General. 'William Everhart.'

'Here, sir.'

'Take the stand.'

'A tall, stately, dark-complexioned gentleman stepped forward and was sworn.

'Mr. Everhart oblige me,' said Hartley, while a smile of recognition passed between them, 'oblige me by stating what you know of a brace, let purchased by you at the establishment of Mr. Bentley?'

'Certainly, sir. I came to Philadelphia in July, for the purpose of fulfilling a matrimonial engagement subsisting between Miss Gleason and myself. Stepping in at Bentley's I saw a bracelet made for Miss Hargrave, and ordered a similar one, intending it as a present for my bride.'

'Examine this bracelet, sir,' said Hartley, handing him the jewel.

'It is either Miss Hargrave's, or the one made for me,' said the witness. 'I cannot say which.'

'Was your bracelet lost, sir,' asked Hartley.

'My wife, to whom I gave it, tells me—'

'Stop, sir,' exclaimed the Attorney General. 'Now, may it please the court, I object to this testimony. I have already allowed the defence more than the usual latitude, but hear say evidence—'

'We do not press the question,' said Hartley, 'Mrs. Everhart is in court. Will you lead forward Mrs. Everhart?' continued Hartley, turning to the witness. Mrs. Everhart came forward. 'Your name madam?'

'Ellen Everhart.'

'My husband,' said the witness, after she had been sworn, 'presented me with this; or a similar bracelet, on the evening of the wedding. The next morning in the hurry of my departure, I neglected placing it in my jewel case, and clasped it on my arm. It was not until after my arrival in Virginia, that I missed my ornament, and not wishing to excite Mr. Everhart's anxiety on the subject, at so early a period of our union, concluded to keep the matter an entire secret from him, and submit to my loss.'

'Where did you reside in Philadelphia, madam?'

'In Chestnut, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets.'

'Near Miss Hargrave?'

'A few doors above her.'

'Did you pass her house on your road to the steamboat?'

'I did.'

There was no cross-examination, except as to the identity of the bracelet, to which, like her husband, Mrs. Everhart could not speak positively.

'All very nice Hartley, very,' said the Attorney General, *so to voice*, 'but it won't do—y—y—y haven't touched Miss Hargrave's testimony!'

'Perhaps not, replied his hearer, with a smile, 'but I have not finished. Order, call Edward Grey.'

The witness was sworn.

'I remember very little about it; I saw it, to be sure, but I left town directly after, and now have almost forgotten the article.'

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'I hope so too,' replied Hartley, as he left the store.

Hartley returned to his office and examined the directory. There were plenty of Everharts, but not the Everhart he wanted. He made inquiries afterwards among the several families bearing that name, but no one knew anything of the purchaser of the bracelet. He was undoubtedly a stranger.

Hartley was now fully embarked in the business, and determined to proceed. His next step was to visit the various hotels and examine their registers, but William Everhart was an unknown name. All this consumed considerable time. Nothing daunted by his ill-success, he started a list for the wharves, determined, if such a thing were at all practicable, to discover whether a Mr. Everhart had started North or South, at any time after the purchase of the bracelet. He was variously unsuccessful, for the way-bills of the various lines along remained at the several places of destination. Almost out of heart, he continued to make inquiries of the hotel and cabmen, but no one remembered such a name.

Further search was made to no end.

As Hartley was thus engaged, the intention of retracing his steps, he was one accosted by a man with a shaggy beard and a wild hair.

'Ah! Hinton, is it you, is that you?' asked our attorney, recognizing his friend at once. 'What are you doing here?'

'Attending to a little business at the Transportation Company's office.'

'The Transportation Company's office! an idea flashed across his mind. What could Mr. Everhart want with a bracelet of such value unless to present to a wife, or a lady about to be betrothed? Perhaps he was a Southerner, making preparations for his wedding. If so, he might have selected some furniture and had it forwarded. It was still possible that Hartley might obtain his address.

'Walk with me to the Baltimore Transportation Line,' said Hartley to his friend, 'and I will walk up with you. It is but a step.'

'Willingly,' returned the other; 'but what is your object?'

'I am trying to discover the whereabouts of a man named Everhart.'

'What Everhart? William Everhart?'

'Yes, William Everhart! Do you know him?'

'I should think I do; I was only his groom's man.'

'Indeed I and where is he?'

'At home by this time, on his estate in Virginia.'

'Tell me, Hinton, for perhaps you know—'

'You say you were his groom's man—did you see a diamond bracelet he bought?'

'Certainly I did. He clasped it on the bride's arm on the night before her wedding.'

'Would you recognize it again?'

'Undoubtedly. It was a beautiful affair; he gave \$1000 for it. It was made at Bentley's.'

'When did Mr. Everhart leave Philadelphia?'

'On—let me see; yes, it was—on the seventeenth of July, the morning succeeding his bride's arrival.'

'Excuse me for asking such a question; but did he walk or ride to the boat?'

'He walked; a large company of us attended the new married couple to the wharf.'

'One more question, and I have done: did you see the bracelet on his wife's arm on the morning of their departure?'

'No,' replied the other, 'I did not. Do you imagine a woman like Ellen Gleason would wear diamonds over a travelling dress?'

'Ellen Gleason! Why the Gleasons live only a few doors above the Hargraves,' thought Hartley. 'Perhaps there may be some truth in Mary Elmwood's story after all. At any rate, everything that can be done shall be done.'

'Pray, Hinton,' continued Hartley, 'can you give me Mr. Everhart's address?'

'Certainly. William Everhart, Poplar Grove, near Richmond, Virginia. And now what is the meaning of all this?'

'I will tell you another time, Hinton—explain over this; but now I must write to a friend,' said Hartley, as he ascended the steps which led into his office. 'Wont you walk in?'

'No, thank you, I've an engagement,' replied his friend. 'Good evening, Hartley.'

'That night Hartley wrote to Virginia. 'Well, young man, getting on in our business?'

'said old, unceremonious Mr. Murphy to Hartley, a few days previous to that fixed on for the trial of Mary Elmwood. 'What is your opinion now?'

'I am perfectly satisfied of Mary's innocence,' returned Hartley; 'and I hope for her acquittal.'

'You don't say so!—you don't say so!' exclaimed the really excellent hearted old man; 'but do you think the court will be satisfied?—The court's opinion of more consequence than a lawyer's any day.'

'I think the court's opinion will be the same as mine,' replied Hartley, with a smile.

'Ain't you certain of it?' inquired Mr. Murphy, with some trepidation.

'Not positively.'

'Well, you must be,' exclaimed the old man. 'Here's another fee for you. You needn't look at it; twenty more good dollars, as I'm a Christian. A wifed thing this law is, awful, awful!'

'Thank you, thank you,' said Hartley, pocketing the additional twenty. 'You may depend on my doing my best. Be ready for Tuesday morning; the grand jury meet on Monday, when they will, no doubt, find a good bill.'

'Good-bye,' returned the old man, walking off without another word.

The terrible morning—terrible for poor Mary Elmwood—at last arrived, and Hartley took his seat in court beside his client.

'Be comforted, Mary,' said Hartley, with a pleasant smile, which went to the heart of the girl; 'the darkest of hours is the hour before day.'

'It's a dark hour for me now, sir,' replied Mary, resignedly, but with a tear in her eye, 'a very dark hour, but I trust in God. He will not forsake the innocent.'

'Continue your well-founded trust,' said Hartley, 'for those who trust in Him shall never be confounded.'

'Commonwealth vs. Mary Elmwood,' interrupted the Attorney General, rising from his seat. 'Ready for trial in this case, Mr. Hartley?'

'We are, sir.'

'Stand up, Mary Elmwood.'

'Stand up, Mary,' whispered Hartley; 'fear nothing, God protects the innocent.'

'You are charged in this bill of indictment, Mary, with the larceny of a diamond bracelet, the property of Ellen Hargrave; value one thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States of America. How say you—are you guilty or not guilty?'

'Not guilty!' replied Mary, in so loud, clear and vehement a voice, that every eye in the crowded court-room was fixed upon her.

'You may sit down, now, Miss Elmwood,' said the Attorney General, evidently struck with her manner. 'Any objection to the jury, Mr. Hartley?'

'None, sir.'

'Then I will open.' And the Attorney General arose and addressed the jury. He alluded to the youth and beauty of the defendant, trusting that they would have no effect, where the great ends of justice were concerned. He spoke of the situation held by Mary in Mr. Hargrave's family, the confidence which, up to the time of larceny, had always been reposed in her, and admitted her previous estimable character. It was no doubt her first offence—an offence brought about, he believed, more for the gratification of a foolish vanity, than from a desire for the possession of unlawful wealth. She was about to be married, he continued, when the larceny took place, and the discovery of guilt only prevented nuptials. He was sorry for her, very; but he must perform his duty, painful as he should find the task; and he went on with the

"Your occupation, Mr. Grey?"
"A Jeweller sir."
"For whom do you work?"
"Mr. Bentley."
"Pray examine this bracelet Mr. Grey?" continued Hartley, handing him the jewel, and tell the court and jury whether you have ever seen it before."
"I have sir," replied the witness; "it is my work."
"Was this the first or second bracelet of the kind you made sir?"
"The second."
"The second?" reiterated the Attorney General astonished.
"The second and last sir!—I never made but two of the pattern."
"And will you please to examine this bracelet?" said Hartley taking a case from his pocket and handing it to the witness.
"I made this bracelet for Miss Hargrave; this is the first bracelet."
"Any doubt on the subject?"
"None at all sir. The workmanship on the last bracelet is better of the two. Besides sir, my engraving iron slipped on the first and made this scratch," and he exhibited a slight abrasion of the gold.
"Cross examine."
"No questions," said the Attorney General, almost dumb with astonishment.
"One more witness, may it please your honor," said Raleigh, but only to account for my possession of the jewel; I don't want to be indicted as a receiver of stolen goods. Edward Moreland! Edward, take the stand. You are Mr. Hargrave's coachman, I believe?"
The witness assented.
"Now, my man, look at these jewels; do you recognize either of them?"
"I am sorry to say I do sir; this," and he held up Miss Hargrave's bracelet. "I found it in the carriage when it returned from Mr. Hargrave's country house under the cushion, sir. When I cleaned the carriage, sir, it met my eye—and the witness paused.
"Go on Edward, and tell the court why you didn't mention the matter before. Nay, never fear my good fellows; an evil act repented of is half atoned for."
"Well you see your honor, and you gentlemen," said the witness, "I had a kind of sneaking notion after Mary, but she didn't take kindly to me, and I hated her for it. I didn't find the bracelet till after she was taken for a thief, and I thought I'd have my satisfaction out of her if I kept the jewel out of sight. But I couldn't do it, Judge; I couldn't do it; I love Mary, and when I found that Mr. Hartley, there was pleading for her, I went to him and told him all."
"We close here," said Raleigh, addressing the Attorney General. "Now, sir, I propose leaving this case to the jury without an argument."
The Judge smiled, while a hum of approbation passed from mouth to mouth.
"Gentlemen of the Jury," said he, "if you think you have sufficient evidence in this case to convict, you can do so, but if you do, and this time he proved to laugh, 'I fear the Court will set aside your verdict.'"
"How say you, Gentlemen of the Jury?" said the clerk, is the defendant Mary Elmwood guilty of the charge of which she stands indicted or not guilty?"
"NOT GUILTY!" said the foreman, and as the word rang on the breathless court-room, a clear, loud and emphatic burst of applause disturbed the dignity of the place.
"Silence!" said the Judge. "Crier, call silence. Gentlemen, such conduct will never do!"
"M. Everhart," said Hartley turning to this gentleman, "permit me to return your bracelet, and to express my clients thanks, and mine, for your generous attention to my request. And Mr. Hargrave allow me to hand you your daughter's jewel, and to say to you sir and her, that we should never be too positive human testimony no matter how direct may sometimes err."
Is there any use in protracting our story?—in dilating on Mary Elmwood's happiness, as she stood clasped in Duncan's manly arms, who we regret to say, also outraged the dignity of the court by such an unprecedented proceeding? Is there any use in mentioning that old Mr. Morphy passed his hand across his eyes, to wipe away certain testimonial feelings? We think not—but one or two matters require some slight degree of attention. A few days after the trial saw an advertisement inserted in the public prints that of the firm of "Murphy & Duncan, Wholesale Grocers;" and on the same day perhaps the list of marriages contained another and we imagine not an unexpected announcement. And another, little item which we had well nigh forgotten that the first check drawn by the new firm was in favor of their (and our) friend the counsellor, payable to his order, and for the trifling sum of five hundred dollars, which said check was afterwards returned (through the Bank of course) bearing on its back the very well written signature of "HENRY HARTLEY."
Mr. Hargrave and his daughter, taking their bracelet departed much chagrined the latter especially so, for she had actually forgotten that Mary put the bracelet on her arm; and having no occasion for such a jewel in the country presumed it was safe at home. Besides she had never wished Mary's prosecution, not that she believed her innocent for she did not—but because she did not wish to see one whom she really liked placed in the walls of a prison; furthermore, she would rather have put up with the loss of the bracelet than made her appearance in a court room. Her father, however insisted on making an example of Mary, and she was compelled to accede to his commands. Her confusion at the denouncement was consequently extreme.
Still water curves 8 inches to the mile which shows the convexity of the earth's surface.

Abstract of the Report of the Treasurer of the State.
The Report of the Treasurer exhibits the operations of the Treasury for the past year, and its present fiscal condition, as follows:
Balance of cash in the treasury May 1, 1847. \$92,926 14
Amount of receipts from May 1, 1847, to April 29, '48, inclusive, 467,757 87
\$560,683 51
Amount of expenditures from May 1, 1847, to April 29, 1848, inclusive, \$484,205 26
Leaving a balance in the treasury, April 29, 1848, of 126,478 25
\$560,683 51
The public debt amounting to \$168,000, which became due during the past financial year, has been paid, or provided for, but as was anticipated by my predecessors, the \$100,000 state tax, which was due in January last, with the other means in the treasury, exclusive of the United States loan, was found inadequate to pay so large an amount of debt, and meet the ordinary expenses of the year.
This deficiency of means resulted from the smallness in amount, of the annual tax of 1847—it being only half the amount of the tax for the present year, and considerably less than the inevitable annual expenses of government, exclusive of the interest on the funded debt of the State. In 1846, when this short tax was assessed, there was in the treasury a large amount of surplus means, which the Legislature of that year undoubtedly relied on to supply any deficiency.
This surplus, however, was subsequently, in November, 1846, in pursuance of a resolve of the Legislature, invested in United States stock of the loan of that year. This investment was highly commended by the last Legislature as being equally fortunate and judicious for the State. Fortunately as the stock obtained by the State was very desirable security, being at any time convertible into money, at an advance upon the cost. Judicious, as it concentrated our surplus means into a fund drawing interest, thereby enabling the State to set it aside, if necessary, without loss, for any desirable purpose.
There have already been received on this stock, nearly \$10,000 for interest. As the interest received from this source will pay an equal amount on the public debt, the Legislature thought it advisable that the stock should be retained to be used for the payment in part of the large amount of debt which falls due in 1851.
To provide means, if the condition of the treasury should render it necessary, they authorized a call upon the banks for a temporary loan to supply any deficiency. Additional means being wanted, on the first of February last I called for such a loan. The banks promptly responded, notwithstanding the closeness of the money market, a state of things calculated to make the loan onerous and which was not anticipated at the time the requisition was authorized by the Legislature. I obtained of the banks a sum equal to five per cent. on their capital stock actually paid in.
During the months of February and March, the receipts were larger and the disbursements less than was anticipated, and I was enabled to pay on April 1st, with safety to the public interest, the first instalment, or one-fifth of the temporary loan.
The loan or debts now held by the banks is only \$110,000, a sum but a trifle larger than the difference of the annual tax for 1847 and 1848, which conclusively proves that if the tax for 1847 had been equal to the one for the present year, there would have been no necessity for calling on the banks.
It is believed that the wish is generally entertained that our public debt should be paid at the earliest practicable moment; and most surely if this is the feeling in relation to our permanent loan, much of which was taken by the holders less than par, there certainly should be a strong desire to pay as soon as may be, our temporary loan, which was obtained under the provisions of our banking law.
The necessity of this loan, as has been already indicated, was occasioned by the short tax assessed in 1846 and the setting aside the United States stock (which it is believed was judicious) for a special object; and it would seem to be but just that the prudent arrangements of the State for the benefit of the treasury, should not be allowed to interfere with the ordinary business of our banks for any longer time than absolutely necessary.
The temporary loan, by the terms of the notes held by the banks, which are in conformity to the provisions of the law before alluded to, is reimbursable by five annual instalments, or at any shorter period, at the election of the State. From the suggestions already submitted, you will infer that I do not think it advisable for the State to avail itself of the time allowed by the notes, but to pay them as soon as practicable. For although the banks responded and granted the loan with all the promptness before intimated, I have reason to believe that they regard it as a hardship of which they would be gladly relieved, and one which they would not voluntarily have assumed.
How are the ways and means to be made certain for the payment of the banks, either in whole or in part, during the present year?
The collections from taxes, together with the funds now on hand, will only be sufficient to pay our inevitable liabilities now outstanding, and those which are certain to accrue, before the tax for 1848 falls due at the treasury. Indeed, these funds will be inadequate to meet the wants of the treasury up to the period designated, unless the Legislature are rigid and economical in making appropriations which are merely desirable and not indispensable.
Aside from taxes, our only other sources of

revenue are the receipts from the land office and bank tax.
The revenue from lands for the ensuing year is estimated at \$75,000. A moment's consideration will satisfy any one the revenue from the land office is quite uncertain, depending as it does upon a great variety of uncontrollable circumstances. Certain physical hindrances may occur, like the want of a "freshet," or the destruction of artificial helps to float logs to the point of manufacture by an excessive one, which will unexpectedly interrupt and defeat the just hopes of the operator, depriving him of the means of payment to the State. Should nothing unfavorable occur until the logs are manufactured and the lumber is ready for sale, still the hazard, depression, and uncertainties of the business world might prevent a sale, which is the reliance of the lumberman for the means of paying stampage. We may realize the estimate if nothing unfavorable occurs, but it would be giving loss reins to our hopes, if reliance is put upon it to meet certain liabilities.
The remaining source of revenue for the treasury is the tax derived from banks. For a series of years past, this tax has been distributed to towns, in aid of primary schools. All are ready to acknowledge the duty of providing free schools for the children of the people, and none will complain if there is manifested towards these "nursing mothers" of New England all the indulgence of fondness. But we should not allow either our sense of obligation, justifiable partiality, or any apprehension of being misunderstood on the justly popular topic of public schools, to lead us to the approval of a policy which, at best affords but trifling aid to the schools, while, as a measure of government, it can but be regarded as unwise and imprudent.
The amount apportioned to each scholar last year was about twelve cents; and the sum will not be so large this year, as the bank tax is less, and the scholars have increased in numbers. The imprudent feature of this system is the distribution among the towns of money, which they are immediately called upon to pay back in the form of taxes, being subjected to the loss of the necessary expenses of assessing and collecting them.
If the policy of distribution is imprudent, a proper management of our financial concerns demands that it should be abandoned.
I am aware that the proposition of allowing the bank tax to remain in the treasury as available means, although recommended and enforced with great ability by one of my predecessors, failed of being adopted by the Legislature. How much difference is to be given to their action, is a matter upon which I will not remark; but it most certainly is not a reason, and could hardly be made an apology, for the refusal of wholesome legislation. If their action resulted either from fear or favor, (a mistaken partiality for our primary schools, or the apprehension of being suspected of hostility to them,) it should not be regarded as an approval of the system of the annual distribution of the bank tax.
Further remarks upon this subject are considered unnecessary; but it is hoped that these already submitted will arrest the attention, and excite inquiry in the Legislature, with whom is the right of judgment and responsibility of power in the proper management of our public affairs.
Should the Legislature be unwilling to repeal the law providing for the distribution of the bank tax, it is suggested that, in view of the wants of the treasury and our just obligations, they suspend its operations for the present year. If this course be taken, and the tax be allowed to remain in the treasury as available means, another instalment could within a short time be paid toward the temporary loan, thereby increasing the means of the banks for business facilities. The banking capital of this State is very limited, and quite unequal to our business wants, and it is to be apprehended that the diversion of even the small sum of four per cent. of this capital from the usual channel, may, in the present depressed condition of money means operate unfavorably upon the business of our citizens.
Should the Legislature be inclined to regard the bank tax as the special boon of our children, they may well consider whether it would not be judicious to retain it this year, and distribute double the amount next. During the year '49 there will be no public debt to pay, and there will be due to the treasury an annual tax of \$200,000; so that such a distribution could be made without embarrassment to the public service, or interference with the business of the State.
I have presented these different suggestions, and ventured to press this matter upon your consideration, from the fact that I can see no other way of making certain the means of payment to the banks, either in whole or in part.—The early extinguishment of the temporary loan is highly desirable, and may be the turning-point of our success in paying at maturity our public debt, without resorting to increased taxes, or new loans of a permanent character. If the banks are promptly paid at the present time, we could, if it should be necessary in 1851, when so large an amount of debt matures, ask for partial aid from them in its redemption. The providing of means for the payment of the debt due in 1851 should be an object of constant solicitude, and our efforts should be early and unwearily for its accomplishment.
Perhaps it may be well to consider whether it would not be good economy to authorize, on Surry, Manscomb of Albion, Hubbard of Hiram, Adams of Harrington.
Change of Name. Odum of Prospect, Jackson of Sangerville, Wetherbee of Dexter.
On motion of Mr. Lowell of Standish, the credentials of members were referred to the committee on elections.

equal in amount to the one for the present year.
Until our public debt is paid, it is quite evident that a wise forecast demands the annual assessment of a \$200,000 tax. Our current expenditure, with the interest on our public debt, is about equal to this amount.
The difficulties at the present time, resulting from the short tax for 1847, should be instructive, and admonish us to avoid similar embarrassments hereafter, from the same cause. Our only security from like vexations, will be found in the annual assessment of a State tax equal in amount to our current expenses, together with the interest on the public debt. This rule or guide for fixing the amount of our annual tax is a safe one, and should, excepting in cases of extraordinary expenditures, be always adopted.
Under its operations, which a provident carefulness of our resources, we can safely hold, that our State debt will be paid at the several periods of its maturity, without resorting to that perpetuating process of indebtedness, new loans to pay old ones.
So long as the people are satisfied with the expenditures of the government, there need be no fears in assessing an adequate tax; but, if waste or improvidence is shown in our appropriations, we shall feel their rebuke, although a penny is not required at their hands.
I had intended to make some suggestions upon the present system of collecting county and road taxes on lands in unincorporated places through this office; but, having already extended my remarks to greater length than originally proposed, I will content myself by calling your attention to the subject, and expressing the hope that some remedy will be provided for the many mischiefs I am quite sure you will find, if it is investigated.
MOSES McDONALD, Treasurer.

Twenty-Eighth Legislature.
IN SENATE.
SATURDAY, May 13.
On motion of Mr. Townsend, a message was sent to the House, proposing a convention of both Houses, for the purpose of electing seven Councillors and a Secretary of State.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
SATURDAY, May 13.
A message was received from the Senate, proposing a convention of the two Houses for the purpose of electing Councillors and a Secretary of State. The House concurred, and a convention was formed.
Messrs. Townsend and Leach, of the Senate, and Lowell of Standish, Dunham of Bath, and Knowlton of Montville, of the House, were appointed to receive and count votes for Secretary of State, who reported that the
Whole number of votes was 171
Necessary for a choice, 88
Ezra B. French had 86
Aaron Hayden, 49
Messrs. Dunn of Poland, of the House, Thomas and Prescott, of the Senate, and Jones of Eastport, and Crocker of St. Albans, of the House, were appointed a committee to receive and count votes for Councillors, who reported that the
Whole number of Ballots was 173
Necessary for a choice, 88
Randall Skiffin, of Cape Elizabeth, had 126
Elias M. Carter, of Bethel, 126
Manasseh H. Smith, of Warren, 126
Robert Hunter, of Pittsfield, 126
Samuel Palmer, of Dover, 126
Bradbury Collins, of Harrington, 126
Sewall Cram, of Wilton, 126
Theodore F. Jewett, 48
Thomas Chadwick, 48
Bela B. Haskell, 48
David Hawes, 48
Thomas S. Pallen, 48
Jeremiah Foster, Jr., 48
John Ware, 48
Zury Robison, 48
Joseph Adhison, 1
Nathaniel Pease, 1
Theophilus Cushing, 1
Adams H. Merrill, 1
Samuel Pickard, 1
William A. Crocker, 1
and that the seven gentlemen first named were elected. Report accepted. The convention was then dissolved.
The Speaker announced the Standing Committees of the House, as follows:
On Elections. Lowell of Standish, Milkin of Buxton, Cochran of Wallboro', Leach of Penobscot, Adams of Cherryfield, Walker of Lovell, Weston of Madison.
Expenses of Bills. Goodnow of Portland, Dyer of New Sharon, Smith of Saco, Stark of Waterville, Harriman of Waldo, Pickard of Harrington, Combs of Thomaston.
Finance. Valentine of Westbrook, Jones of Eastport, Milkin of Buxton, Gilman of Hallowell, Chedbourne of Lidcomb, Leonard of Lexington, Chase of Livermore.
County Estimates. White of Bucksport, Hilton of Wells, Dunan of Bath, Small of Townal, Knapp of Ramford, Smart of Stanville, Haskell of Linnear.
Bills in the Third Reading. Appleton of Alfred, Sewall of Oldtown, Barnes of Portland, Leavitt of Skowhegan, Merriam of Camden, Fuller of Wayne, Wheeler of Whitefield.
Pay Roll. Perkins of Kennebecport, Beardman of Islesboro', Wadsworth of Eddington, Dunlap of Williamsburg, Leonard of Green, Loss of Dixton, Atwood of Lisbon.
Loss of Absence. Wing of Vassalboro', Freeman of York, Wildes of Phillipsburg, Lord of Surry, Manscomb of Albion, Hubbard of Hiram, Adams of Harrington.
Change of Name. Odum of Prospect, Jackson of Sangerville, Wetherbee of Dexter.
On motion of Mr. Lowell of Standish, the credentials of members were referred to the committee on elections.

IN SENATE.
MONDAY, May 15.
Mr. Drew, from the committee on senatorial votes, reported that Moses Hall and William P. Doughty are the constitutional candidates to fill the vacancy existing in the second senatorial district, occasioned by the death of Hon. William H. Morse.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
MONDAY, May 15.
A message was received from the Senate, announcing the vacancy in the Cumberland Senatorial District occasioned by the death of Hon. Wm. H. Morse, and proposing a convention of the two Houses for the purpose of filling the same. The House concurred, and a convention was formed.
Messrs. Dunn of Poland, of the House, Leach and Townsend, of the Senate, and White, of Bucksport, and Bennett of Parsonsfield, of the House, were appointed to receive and count the votes, who reported that the
Whole number was 148
Necessary for a choice 75
Wm. P. Doughty, had 141
Moses Hall 47
Accordingly Wm. P. Doughty was declared elected. The convention was then dissolved.
IN SENATE.
TUESDAY, May 16.
The Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts made a report highly complimentary to that officer, and his clerk, Mr. Caldwell, setting forth the ability and faithfulness with which the duties of the office have been performed by them.
IN HOUSE. A Convention was formed for the purpose of electing a State Treasurer. The whole number votes thrown was 158
Moses McDonald had 118
Jesse Aiken 39
Wm. R. Prescott, 1
Petitions presented and referred. Inhabitants of Jarvis Gore in Penobscot County, for incorporation as a town by the name of Maine—R. K. Goodnow et al. for incorporation of Oxford Normal Institute.
IN SENATE.
WEDNESDAY, May 17.
That part of the Governor's Message relative to the erection of a monument to the memory of those citizens of our State who have fallen in the Mexican war, was referred to a joint select committee consisting of Messrs. Thomas, Dean and Dyer on the part of the Senate.
So much as relates to slavery to a joint select committee, consisting of Messrs. Treat, Mayall and Flint on the part of the Senate.
So much as relates to sending up the records of capital convictions, to the Judiciary committee.
And other portions to appropriate committees.
Mr. Townsend introduced a resolution providing that all petitions presented after the first forty days of the session shall be referred to the next Legislature. Laid on the table.
The proceedings of the House were not of much importance, and consisted principally in a debate on the proper reference of certain Abolition petitions.
THURSDAY, May 18.
The proceedings of the Senate were not important to-day. The Senate refused to adopt the 40 day rule in receiving petitions.
In the House, the most important matter was the petition of Portland, for authority to pledge the credit of the city in aid of the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad. The motion to refer to the Committee on Rail Roads and Bridges was opposed by Mr. Sewall of Oldtown, who moved to amend by referring the petition to a Select Committee of one member of the House from each county, who upon a discussion arose involving in some degree the merits of the policy of pledging the credit of towns to build railroads.
This policy Mr. Sewall opposed as essentially dangerous and threatening to involve a great number of towns in bankruptcy. His motion to amend was opposed by Messrs. Barnes and Goodnow of Portland, Dunn of Poland, and Combs of Thomaston, and defeated by Messrs. Sewall, Merrow of Bowdoinham and Chadbourne of Lidcomb. The motion to amend prevailed, by 62 yeas 36, and the speaker appointed on the Committee, Messrs. Appleton of Alfred, Barnes of Portland, Cochran of Thomaston, White of Bucksport, Taber of East Machias, Stark of Waterville, Thayer of Paris, Leavitt of Skowhegan, Dine of Bangor, Knowlton of Montville, Thomas of Ellsworth, Smith of Dallas and Gilman of No. 11.
IN SENATE.
FRIDAY, May 19.
Mr. Townsend, from the committee on education made a report recommending that copies of the Report of the Board of Education and of the Secretary of the Board, be printed for disposal as the legislature shall hereafter direct. Report accepted.
The resolve laying a tax on the several counties of the State, was finally passed.
On motion of Mr. Clark, the returns of each of the banks were referred to the committee on banks and banking.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
FRIDAY, May 19.
On motion of Mr. Sewall of Oldtown, inquiry was ordered relative to taking land for school house lots in the same manner as for highways.
On motion of Mr. Dunn of Poland, the use of the hall was granted to the democratic members of the House this evening, for the purpose of a caucus.
Petitions presented and referred.—Maine Historical Society for aid; assessors of Biley plantation legitimized; George Gage and al. in relation to bowling alleys; Mary Morse for grant of land; Gower Wilson for refunding of certain taxes; Henry Clay Wirt and al. relative to sale of liquors; Jas. Andrews for change of name.—Adj.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.
"The Union must be preserved."
PARIS, MAINE, MAY 23, 1848.
THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.
The Democratic National Convention met at Baltimore yesterday, and in our next number we hope to be able to lay the result of their deliberations and decisions before our readers.
The Convention is composed of some of the most powerful and distinguished advocates of the democracy, and when the intelligence, patriotism, and long devotion to the republican cause of its members are considered, there is every reason to hope that the questions that come up for discussion will be met in a proper spirit.
The Convention have a plain course with regard to the promulgation of their principles.—On this point there has been no change in the party, with regard to fundamental points, for fifty years; for they constitute a solid basis on which the country has prospered, and been kept united; and so long as these principles are adhered to, in good faith, there is reason to predict continued prosperity and union. The democratic creed is simple as it is profound; and in its application it seeks to restrict the general government to matters strictly of a national character, and to maintain the State governments, for local purposes, in all their integrity. It is to maintain with sacred fidelity the great principle of STATE RIGHTS. This is the safeguard of our country—the Union ensuring protection of the States, local legislation to meet local wants. This simple creed, clearly seen in its value by the democratic statesmen—the Jeffersons and Madisons—of our early days, and powerfully maintained in opposition to the centralization doctrines of the Hamiltons and the Adamses, still remains to be watched over.—The Convention will again proclaim the allegiance of the democracy to it, and its readiness to discard every thing that tends to conflict with it. It will declare its opposition to all those pernicious, centralizing schemes—such as a national bank, a high tariff, the doctrine of internal improvements, and land distribution—upon which Federalism or Whiggism is based. While on the new issue that has come up, the war question, the Convention will unquestionably embody the patriotic, political sentiment of the majority of the country. On all these issues, therefore, there need be no ground for dissension.—Democrats can come together with a political creed broad enough to cover the whole country, and agree to stand or fall with it.
The candidates nominated by the Convention will be selected to carry out these principles; and provided they are true to them, and capable of conducting the affairs of the country, there would seem to be no good reason for not supporting them. On this ground there is no cause for fear. Of the prominent democrats who stand before the party for nomination, there is not one who would not fill the offices with credit to himself and honor to the country. Under either of them the country would possess an administration worthy to guide its onward march and keep it true to its high destiny—namely, to unfold the wonderful power of free principles to promote human happiness.
Let the nominations be from what sections of the country they may, the course of the party is a clear one: it is to be ready to support them zealously, efficiently, unitedly. Immediate organization to promote their success should be commenced; for it is useless to attempt to wink out of sight the fact that, before triumph this year can be gained, there has got to be much work done. The whigs, though beaten in argument, in votes, have by no means laid down their arms. They will come into the field strong, and will not hesitate to pour out money like water to secure their success. Democrats must be prepared to meet them by zeal and an efficient organization. The support of the nomination must be made the test of each member to the democratic party; those who do not come in with the party must be counted as against it—as working with its deadly enemies. Every effort will be made by the whigs to divide the party, and every plausible question will be got up that promises to split the ranks in a single district. Will not patriotic democrats look to this? Let them remember that while their principles the country has prospered as no country ever prospered before, and has enjoyed an unbroken season of peace and plenty, and that the faithful application of these principles in future is only necessary to secure it. To maintain this peace to themselves, to their party, and to the cause of free men throughout the world!

Tue. May 23. In our last, we published Gov. Davis's Message, without comment. To this day our readers have given it a careful reading, and know from a personal knowledge of its contents, that it is replete with sound sense, just what we should expect from our Chief Magistrate, known to be a man of high attainments, and purely democratic sentiments—a man of the people, a friend of humanity, feeling a deep interest in the welfare of all classes. Every word in the Message has an idea; and the Governor has a happy faculty of leaving off when he is done. This saves the necessity of reviewing the Message in an article as long perhaps as the Message itself, for the purpose of explaining to the people its meaning.

The Kennebec Journal announces that Mr. Bronson declines being again the whig candidate for Governor.

The Montreal Transcript intimates that secret meetings are held in that city, with a view to the establishment of an "Independent Republic." So the fire spreads.

The oldest girl was 11 years of age, the other
The ages of the boys were 4 and 7.
The murderer had a fine farm consisting of
50 acres of land and no debts, standing.

we know from experience of hundreds-
sale by J. K. HAMMOND, Paris, and An-
d, South Paris; also by Druggists and
generally.

Sheetings and Shirtings.
 00 Yds. Sheetings and Shirtings for sale by
 A. C. DENISON.
 Friday, May 1, 1848. 52

FOR SALE.
THE subscribers are Licensed and will
 all kinds of Liquors, for Medicinal and
 chemical purposes only.
HUBBARD & STEVENSON
 Paris, May 23, 1849

TO whom it may concern:—This
that I have given my son, ELBRIDGE
rox, his time; and I shall claim none of his
nor pay any debts of his contracting after t
JAMES HUSTO
Witness—JOHN REED.
1846

invited to examine this Horse.

subscri-
village, ^{some}
wishing
are in-
SON



